Equity support for IA and AI

1330. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to provide higher equity support for the two public sector airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the equity base of the two airlines is too low given their ambitions and the competition in the sector; and

(d) if so, whether these airlines plan to enhance their equity base?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) The question of increasing the equity base of Air India and Indian Airlines is linked to their aircraft acquisition proposals. Keeping in view the capital intensive nature of the business, the current equity base of the two airlines is not considered adequate.

Services at Delhi and Mumbai airports

1331. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the customer satisfaction level at Delhi and Mumbai Airports is much below the international standards;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what steps Government propose to take or have taken so far to further improve the services at these airports so as to bring them at par with international standards;

(d) whether some other airports like Amritsar would also be developed similarly; and

(e) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) On the basis of the recent study commissioned by Airports Authority of India (AAI), the Customer Satisfaction Index for Mumbai and Delhi Airports on a comparable basis